

Command chief discusses retention

By Staff Sgt. Heather Shelton
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Crawl, Pacific Air Forces command chief, spoke at the 8th Fighter Wing Annual Awards Banquet here Friday.

Focusing on Air Force retention problems, Crawl discussed the three top reasons people leave the Air Force.

"The biggest complaint is the lack of recognition," he said. "People want a simple thank you or pat on the back." Patting the Wolf Pack on the back, Crawl applauded those that properly recognize and make every warrior here feel important.

According to the chief, the second reason people leave the Air Force is not enough unit leadership.

"I've heard complaints about supervisors not being aware of what their troops are out there doing," he said. The chief said he believes the extended family concept should be taken very seriously. "Everyone should watch out for one another," he said. "I personally believe this has been key to your success as a wing."

The last reason the chief said he believes most people choose to leave the Air Force is lack of job satisfaction.

"Airmen aren't feeling a sense of accomplishment," Crawl said. This is another area that Crawl feels warriors here have no problem with. "No organization in our Air Force is more focused or aligned on the job than the 8th Fighter Wing," he said. "That's why warriors here are the best qualified to assist in turning the retention trend around."

Crawl also discussed a recent program titled "Developing Aerospace Leaders" mandated by Gen. Michael Ryan, Air Force chief of staff. The program determines how future Air Force leaders are selected. Currently, the program pertains only to general officers and command chief master sergeants, but Crawl said he's convinced it will lead to other enlisted special-duty assignments, such as technical training instruc-

tors.

"This program was developed to broaden the perspectives of future leaders and it will provide more generalists and less specialists," he said. "This (program) will ensure airmen are not stove piped within one particular area, and in-turn, are better prepared to equip, train and lead aerospace forces."

The command chief said he always jumps at the chance to visit the Wolf Pack

"I would love to take some of the enthusiasm and professionalism of warriors back to the rest of the Air Force," he said. "I refer to them as 'the part of PACAF with attitude.'"



Photo by Senior Airman Lanie McNeal, 8th CS/VI

Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Crawl, Pacific Air Forces command chief, speaks at the 8th Fighter Wing Annual Awards Banquet here Feb. 23. .

Wolf's Bytes

It's almost showtime Wolf Pack! Soon it will be time to show the Pacific Air Forces Inspector General team what we've known for quite some time, the Wolf Pack is ready for war. We are well-trained and prepared to handle any challenge.

Just because there are inspectors, our approach to this inspection doesn't change at all.

Remember three things: keep a positive attitude; focus on safety and practice teamwork. If we focus on these three areas, the PACAF IG will no doubt walk away impressed.

Now is the time to make any last minute adjustments, take part in refresher training and check your gear.

Continue to review and familiarize yourself with the January 2001 Ability to Survive and Operate guide, talk with other bases that have recently experienced an ORI and continue to discuss ORI interest items with your 7th Air Force counterparts.

Take the time to examine areas you need to fine-tune to meet the challenges of the Operational Readiness Inspection.

The 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Readiness Flight will be running the ATSO Machine Monday at the football field. This is the last opportunity to brush up on your ATSO skills before the ORI.

Those who have arrived since the Jan. 16 are required to attend, along with any others who want to have refresher training. The start times for the ATSO Machine are 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m.

We'll rally the troops one final time for a wing pep-rally and bonfire Monday. The event will take place in the field between the O'Malley Dining Facility and the Sonlight Inn at 6 p.m.

This will be senior leadership's opportunity to thank each of you for your sustained dedication and commitment to making Kunsan the most lethal "true warrior" base in the Air Force.

In other Wolf Pack news, remember to take time to file your taxes. The legal office has a staff of legal professionals and volunteers dedicated to helping you file your taxes.

While filing taxes can be a hassle, the Wolf Pack legal team and its volunteers can make sure it is done correctly and provide you with peace of mind.

If you haven't done so already, I'd encourage everyone to make an appointment at 782-1TAX.

Pride of the Pack



Job: 8th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal craftsman

Follow-on base: Andersen AFB, Guam

Hometown: Knoxville, Ky.

Family: Son, Brock

Hobbies: Fishing and NASCAR

Words of wisdom: "Initial success or total failure."

The Pride of the Pack is nominated by his or her commander, first sergeant or supervisor, or any Wolf Pack member, for outstanding value to their unit and dedication to the mission. To nominate a Wolf Pack member, send a nomination to the individual's group commander.



Staff Sgt. Patrick Cazalet